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12 Rahab and the Spies

We last looked at Joshua coming in to the Promised Land prefigures your and my relatinoship with Jesus Christ. They were possessing the promises of God. God had promised Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob the land, but after 400 years in slavery in Egypt, God brought them to the Promised Land.

We talked about how many of us end up "walking in the desert" for 38.1/2 years. God is telling us that He has given us promises and He is telling us to TAKE THEM. "Every place that the soul of your foot will tread I will give to you just like I have given Moses." It was land that was full of the best of what the Lord had to give, but they ended up questioning the land.

This book has a New Testament parallel in Ephesians. Our inheritance is not the Holy Land or even the United States. Our inheritance is all of the spiritual blessings that have been promised to us. God is telling us that "whereever you set your foot" it is yours. That means Joshua had to go there to get it to possess it. If they had observed it from Kadesh-Barnea it never would have been theres.

You and I must lay hold of the inheritance of God by WALKING THEM OUT. You don't do this by moral effort or human strength, but by faith you believe and it is yours. Our land of Promise is all that you have been given in the Word of God. We must stand on the promises of God.

Rahab Shelters Spies

2 Then Joshua the son of Nun sent two men as spies secretly from Shittim, saying, "Go, view the land, especially Jericho." So they went and entered the house of a prostitute whose name was Rahab, and rested there.

[2] But it was told to the king of Jericho, saying, "Behold, men from the sons of Israel have come here tonight to spy out the land." [3] And the king of Jericho sent word to Rahab, saying, "Bring out the men who have come to you, who have entered your house, for they have come to spy out all the land."

4 But the woman had taken the two men and hidden them, and she said, "Yes, the men
came to me, but I did not know where they were from. 5 It came about, when it was time
to shut the gate at dark, that the men went out; I do not know where the men went.
Pursue them quickly, for you will overtake them." 6 But she had brought them up to the
roof and hidden them in the stalks of flax which she had laid in order on the roof. 7 So
the men pursued them on the road to the Jordan, to the crossing places; and as soon as
those who were pursuing them had gone out, they shut the gate.

This was a huge risk that Rahab was taking here. She knew that she was in danger. She did this because she thought that God was working with these spies and she decided to risk her life in keeping with her belief.

8 Now before the spies lay down, she came up to them on the roof, 9 and said to the
men, "I know that the LORD has given you the land, and that the terror of you has fallen
on us, and that all the inhabitants of the land have despaired because of you. 10 For we
have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea before you when you came
out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were beyond the
Jordan, to Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed.

She is telling them about certain events that had taken place forty years earlier. The defeat of Sihon and Og had just happened, but they were still talking about what had happened when Israel came out of Egypt.

11 When we heard these reports, our hearts melted and no courage remained in anyone
any longer because of you; for the LORD your God, He is God in heaven above and on
earth below. 12 Now then, please swear to me by the LORD, since I have dealt kindly with
you, that you also will deal kindly with my father's household, and give me a pledge of
truth, 13 and spare my father and my mother, and my brothers and my sisters, and all
who belong to them, and save our lives from death."

Then men then made a deal with her.

14 So the men said to her, "Our life for yours if you do not tell this business of ours; and
it shall come about when the LORD gives us the land that we will deal kindly and
faithfully with you."

The Promise to Rahab

15 Then she let them down by a rope through the window, for her house was on the city
wall, so that she was living on the wall. 16 And she said to them, "Go to the hill country,
so that the pursuers will not encounter you, and hide yourselves there for three days

until the pursuers return. Then afterward you may go on your way." [17] And the men said to her, "We shall be exempt from this oath to you which you have made us swear, [18] unless, when we come into the land, you tie this cord of scarlet thread in the window through which you let us down, and gather into your house your father, your mother, your brothers, and all your father's household. [19] And it shall come about that anyone who goes out of the doors of your house outside will have his blood on his own head, and we will be innocent; but anyone who is with you in the house, his blood will be on our head if a hand is laid on him. [20] But if you tell this business of ours, then we shall be exempt from the oath which you have made us swear." [21] She then said, "According to your words, so be it." So, she sent them away, and they departed; and she tied the scarlet cord in the window.

So, heres what happened. ..... She is still trusting that these guys are going to do what they say they will do.

[22] So they departed and came to the hill country, and remained there for three days, until the pursuers returned. Now the pursuers had searched for them all along the road, but had not found them. [23] Then the two men returned and came down from the hill country, and they crossed over and came to Joshua the son of Nun. Then they reported to him all that had happened to them. [24] And they said to Joshua, "The LORD has indeed handed over to us all the land; furthermore, all the inhabitants of the land have despaired because of us."

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